
SUPERMAN-BATMAN COMICS
DC
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OCT
NO 143
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BAT MAN
"BAT-HOUND and the CREATURE!"
WHAT'S GOT INTO BAT HOUND? HE'S TRYING TO PROTECT THAT MONSTROUS BEAST!

WHICH TOY WOULD YOU LIKE FREE!

See Coupon for Details

RODEO



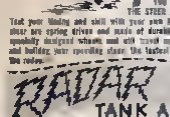
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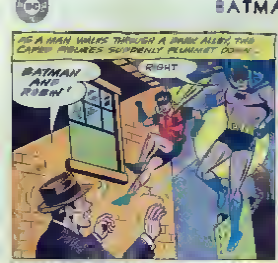
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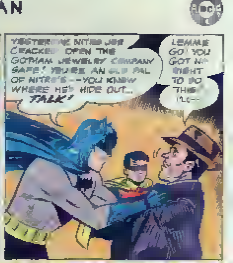
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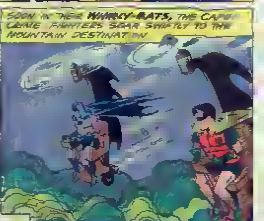
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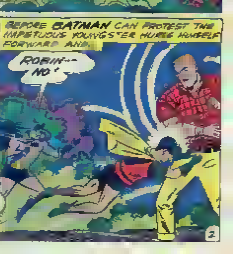

AS A MAN WALKS THROUGH A DARK ALLEY, THE CAPED PROWLER SUDDENLY PLUMMETS DOWN...
RIGHT
BATMAN AND ROBIN!


YESTERDAY WE NITED JOE CRACKER OPEN THE GOTHAM JEWELRY COMPANY SAFE! YOU'RE AN OLD PAL OF NITE'S — YOU KNOW WHERE HE'D HIDE OUT... TALK!
LEMME GO! YOU GOT NO RIGHT TO DO THIS TO ME!


ALL RIGHT! I'LL TAKE YOU IN AS AN ACCOMPLICE IN THE CRIME!
NO, I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT! OKAY, OKAY! HE'S GOT A SHACK IN THE WOODS — ON GOTHAM MOUNTAIN

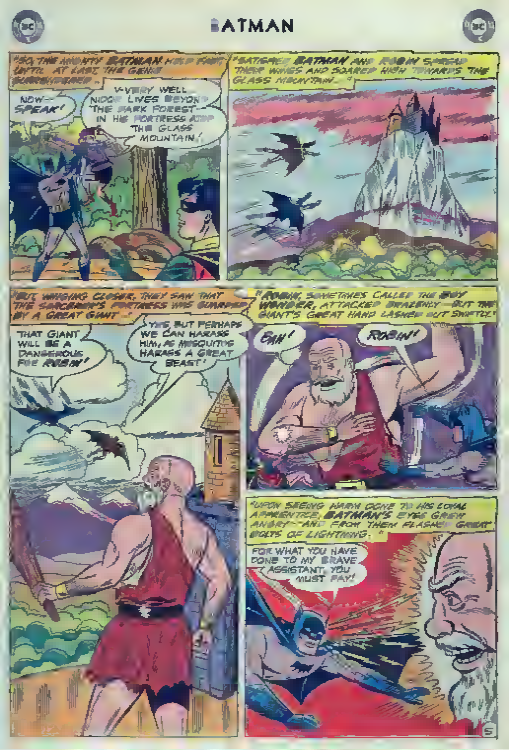

SOON IN THEIR WHIRLY-BATS, THE CAPED CRIME FIGHTERS SOAR SWIFTLY TO THE MOUNTAIN DESTINATION


UPON LANDING THEY MAKE THEIR WAY TO A CLEARING IN THE WOODS, WHERE
A LOOKOUT — AND HE'S HUGE! HE WON'T BE EASY TO TAKE!
I'LL HIT HIM LOW — THROW HIM OFF BALANCE THEN YOU CAN GET IN A COUPLE OF SOLID BLOWS!


BEFORE BATMAN CAN PROTEST THE IMPETUOUS YOUNGSTER HURLS HIMSELF FORWARD AND...
ROBIN— NO!


BATMAN'S EYES FLASH ANGRILY—AS VENGEFULLY HE ATTACKS!
BIFF!
IF YOU MUST THAT BOY YOU'LL LIVE TO REGRET IT!
AGAIN AND AGAIN, POWERFUL FISTS STRIKE LIKE THUNDERBOLTS, UNTIL ...
OH-HH!
REVIVING ROBIN, BATMAN HURLS HIS PARTNER AGAINST THE SWINGING DOOR!
GET BACK! I'VE GOT NITRO CONCEALED IN THIS VALISE! IF YOU TAKE ONE STEP I'LL DROP IT!
BUT NEXT INSTANT A HAND THRUSTS THROUGH A WINDOW SNATCHING AT THE EXPLOSIVE, AS—
THAT'S WHAT I CALL TEAM-WORK! NOW, LET'S GET THIS CROOK TO JAIL, ROBIN!
LATER AT HOME WHEN THE TWO PARTNERS RESUME THEIR FAVORITE PASTIMES OF READING BRUCE WAYNE AND THE HARD ONES BATTLE ON!
BRUCE SAYS IT AMAZING HOW THE REAL FACTS ABOUT HEROES LIKE KING ARTHUR, ROBIN HOOD AND OTHERS HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATED DOWN THROUGH THE AGES!
YES, DICK—EVEN THE STORY OF GEORGE WASHINGTON CUTTING DOWN THE CHERRY TREE IS ONLY A FOLKLORE FANTASY—BUT MANY PEOPLE BELIEVE IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED!
TAKE THE LITTLE ADVENTURE WE HAD TONIGHT—I WONDER HOW IT WOULD BE EXAGGERATED IF IT WERE RE-TOLD FAR IN THE FUTURE?
READER, STRETCH YOUR IMAGINATION!


IMAGINE, THAT ON THIS EARTH BILLIONS IN THE YEAR 2961, CHILDREN ARE GATHERED ABOUT A STORY-TELLER
ONCE UPON A TIME BEFORE MEN OF EARTH PEOPLED THE GALAXIES THERE LIVED A GREAT HERO NAMED BATMAN AND HIS YOUNG APPRENTICE, CALLED ROBIN...
ONE DAY, BATMAN AND ROBIN SET OUT UPON A DOUBLE QUEST...
SO, BATMAN — WE MUST LOCATE BY ON TO RECOVER THE GREAT TREASURE STOLEN BY NIMBUS THE WICKED SORCERER
YES, LAD... BUT TO DO SO WE MUST FIRST FIND THE LITTLE GENIE WHO LIVES IN THESE WOODS — FOR HE KNOWS MANY SECRETS
SOON, THEY CAME UPON THE ONE THEY SOUGHT...
THERE HE IS!
LET ME GO, OR YOU SHALL RUE THIS DAY!
SPEAK! TELL US WHERE TO FIND NIMBUS, THE WICKED SORCERER!
NEVER! LET ME GO!
ALL AT ONCE, THE LITTLE GENIE CHANGED HIMSELF INTO A TERRIBLE SERPENT!
HOLD HIM, BATMAN! HE CANNOT HARM YOU AS LONG AS YOU HOLD ONTO HIM!


SO THE KNIGHTLY BATMAN HELD FORTH UNTIL AT LAST THE GENIE DISAPPEARED!
NOW SPEAK!
VERY WELL NIDOR LIVES BEYOND THE DARK FOREST IN HIS FORTRESS ATOP THE GLASS MOUNTAIN!
SAILING BATMAN AND ROBIN SPREAD THEIR WINGS AND SOARED HIGH TOWARDS THE GLASS MOUNTAIN...
BUT WINGING CLOSER, THEY SAW THAT THE SORCERER'S FORTRESS WAS GUARDED BY A GREAT GIANT!
"ROBIN, SOMETIMES CALLED THE BOY WONDER, ATTACKED RUTHLESSLY—BUT THE GIANT'S GREAT HAND LASHED OUT SWIFTLY!
THAT GIANT WILL BE A DANGEROUS FOE ROBIN!
YOU'RE RIGHT BUT PERHAPS WE CAN HARASS HIM; AS MOSQUITOS HARASS A GREAT BEAST!
GAH!
ROBIN!
UPON SEEING HARM COME TO HIS LOYAL SERVITOR, BATMAN'S EYES GREW ANGRY—AND FROM THEM FLASHED GREAT BOLTS OF LIGHTNING!
FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE TO MY BRAVE ASSISTANT, YOU MUST PAY!


"BUT THE GIANT'S STRENGTH WAS TOO GREAT!"
HO! HO! NO!
METHINK I MUST USE STRATEGY TO DEFEAT THE EVIL GIANT. PERHAPS HIS GREAT CLUB IS THE ANSWER...
AS IF SHOT FROM A MIGHTY BOW, BATMAN HURLED HIMSELF FORWARD, STRAIGHT AT THE GIANT'S MIGHTY RAISED CLUB AND "
WHACK
"LIKE A FELLED TREE THE MIGHTY GIANT CRASHED TO THE GROUND!"
IT WAS AS I SUSPECTED ONLY THE GIANT'S OWN CLUB HAD THE POWER TO DEFEAT HIM.
"HEALING ROBIN WITH A MAGIC HERB, BATMAN ENTERED THE FORTRESS OF THE WICKED SORCERER..."
HEAR ME NOW! SURRENDER THE TREASURE THAT YOU HAVE STOLEN FROM THE GOOD PEOPLE OF OUR CITY!
THIS I WILL NEVER DO, BEWARE BATMAN! FEARE MY DARK POWERS!
"THEN THE SORCERER HELD OUT HIS CAPE ON WHICH WERE SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC!"
I WARNED YOU — NOW PREPARE TO MEET YOUR DOOM SYMBOLS OF THE ZODIAC — COME FORTH!


"AND MANY SYMBOLS SUDDENLY CAME TO LIFE AND GREW TO GREAT SIZE..."
"DESTROY THEM!"
OH, HIS POWER IS INDEED AWESOME!
BUT BATMAN AND ROBIN PROVED THEIR COURAGE AS THEY FACED THE SORCERER'S MONSTROUS SERVANTS
METHINKS I MUST FIGHT SORCERY WITH SORCERY FOR I CANNOT KEEP FIGHTING THESE BEASTS
"A KNIGHTY HERO INDEED HAS BATMAN!!"



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He sang as he played on his Lyre
Between you and me
He was playing a hymn
To the **Tootsie Rolls** saved from the fire!

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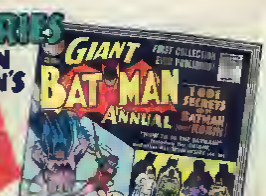
Tootsie Roll

The INSIDE STORIES of BATMAN and ROBIN'S

Top SECRETS

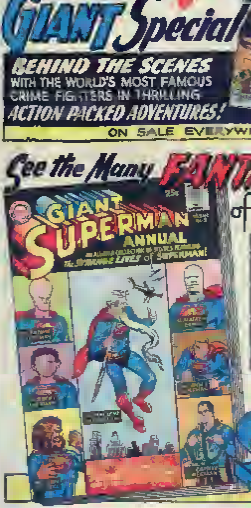
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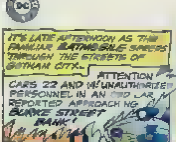
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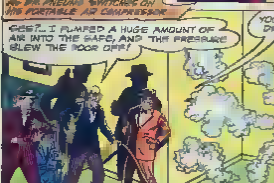
THIS COUPON APPEARS IN *ALL* OCT. *and* NOV. ISSUES


BAT MAN
WITH
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
IN HIS WAR AGAINST CRIME BATMAN NEEDS EVERY ONE OF HIS SENSES SHARPENED TO TAKE FINEST POINT AND WHEN ONE OF THESE STATES IS DAMAGED DISASTER LIES AHEAD! FOR THE FIST OF THE LAW CAN'T FIGHT THE JAW OF THE LOSER-HANDED WHEN THAT FIST IS GUIDED BY
THE BLIND BATMAN
SMOKE DARTS
OH NO... THA' CLOUD OF TINFOIL IS JAMMING BATMAN'S RADAR! NOW THEY REALIZE HE'S TOTALLY BLIND!
BOB KANE


IT'S LATE AFTERNOON AS THE FAMOUS BATMOBILE SPEEDS THROUGH THE STREETS OF GOTHAM CITY...
ATTENTION! ATTENTION! CARS 22 AND 14 UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL IN AN INFO LAB, JUST REPORTED APPROACHING BANK STREET BANK!
AN ODD CAR? THAT SOUNDS LIKE DR PNEUMO AGAIN LET'S GO, ROBIN!


MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE BANK...
YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU'RE GONNA CRACK THAT SAFE WITH NOTHING BUT COMPRESSED AIR, DR PNEUMO?
EXACTLY! FIRST, I INSERT THIS NOZZLE TIGHTLY IN THE HOLE WE DRILLED! NOW, STAND BACK

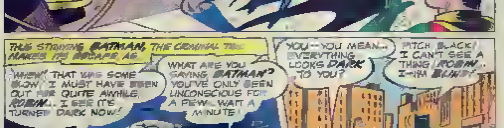

AS DR PNEUMO SWITCHES ON HIS PORTABLE AIR COMPRESSOR
PHEW!... I PUMPED A HUGE AMOUNT OF AIR INTO THE SAFE, AND THE PRESSURE BLEW THE DOOR OFF!
YOU'RE A GENIUS DR PNEUMO
WHOOM


BUT SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE CRIMINALS EMERGE FROM THE BANK...
IT'S DR PNEUMO, ALL RIGHT! THEY'VE HEADED FOR HIS PNEUMATIC CAR! GOT TO CUT THEM OFF!


THAT TAKES CARE OF THE MUSCLES! NOW TO GET THE BRAINS OF THE OUTFIT!
UGH!
THINK AGAIN, BATMAN!

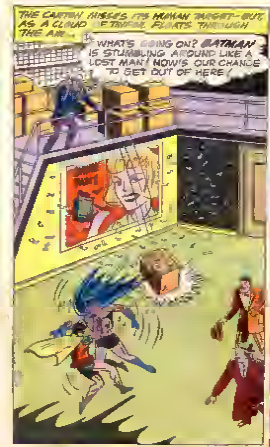

LIGH!
JUMPING JONAH! THE PHIBIANO BLEW BATMAN RIGHT OFF HIS FEET WITH THAT AIR GUN...
POOSH
THWACK

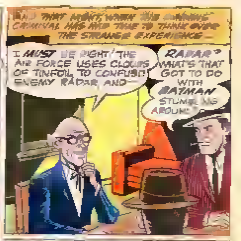

THUS STRIKING BATMAN, THE CRIMINAL TIM MANAGES TO ESCAPE AGAIN!
WHEW! THAT WAS SOME BLOW! I MUST HAVE BEEN OUT FOR QUITE AWHILE, ROBIN... I SEE IT'S TURNED DARK NOW!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, BATMAN? YOU'VE ONLY BEEN UNCONSCIOUS FOR A FEW... WAIT A MINUTE!
YOU--YOU MEAN... EVERYTHING LOOKS DARK TO YOU?
PITCH BLACK! I CAN'T SEE A THING, ROBIN! I--I'M BLIND!

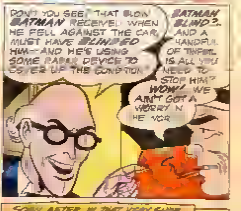

CHECKING BACK HIS SORROW, ROBIN RUSHES BATMAN TO THE CITY'S LEADING EYE SPECIALIST- AND SOON...
THE X-RAY CONFIRMS MY DIAGNOSIS, BATMAN... THE BLOW YOU RECEIVED INJURED THE OPTIC NERVE, PRODUCING BLINDNESS
YES, I--I UNDERSTAND. BUT HOW LONG WILL THIS LAST?
I CAN'T SAY... ONLY TIME CAN REPAIR THE INJURY, PERHAPS A DAY, PERHAPS A YEAR... PERHAPS...
...NEVER? OKAY, DOCTOR. I'LL GET THE "PICTURE"-- BUT I'D LIKE TO ASK A FAVOR! DON'T MENTION THIS TO ANYONE FOR A FEW DAYS.

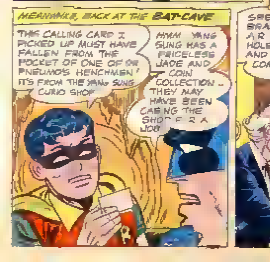
IF THE UNDERWORLD LEARNED THAT I WAS BLIND, THEY'D TAKE INSTANT ADVANTAGE OF IT! THERE COULD EVEN BE A CRIME WAVE! WITH LUCK, MY SIGHT WILL RETURN BEFORE THEN!
I UNDERSTAND, BATMAN... YOUR CONDITION WILL BE OUR SECRET!
LATER, IN THEIR SECRET BAT-CAVE...
OOPS!- ALMOST WENT DOWN THAT TIME! I'M A PRETTY CLUMSY GUY NOW!
TH-THAT'S ALL RIGHT... I'LL BE YOUR EYES, BATMAN! I'LL NEVER LEAVE YOUR SIDE FOR A MOMENT!
NO- THAT'S NO GOOD! IF I'M OUT OF CIRCULATION FOR LONG THE UNDERWORLD MAY SUSPECT THE TRUTH! WE'VE GOT TO LEARN HOW TO OPERATE LIKE A MAN WITH SIGHT! WE START AT ONCE!
HOW DO YOU PLAN TO DO THAT?
FOLLOWING SOME SWIFT PREPARATIONS IN THE BAT-CAVE'S LABORATORY...
IT'S A GOOD PLAN, BATMAN, BUT DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN CHASE ME ACROSS THIS OBSTACLE COURSE YOU HAD ME MAKE?
ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT... TAKE A HUGE START ON ME, AND I'LL FOLLOW YOU!
SO FAR, SO GOOD! BATMAN IS MOVING THROUGH THE OBSTACLES AS THOUGH HE CAN SEE THEM! BUT HE'LL NEVER FIND THAT NARROW DOOR IN THE PARTITION! HE CAN'T!

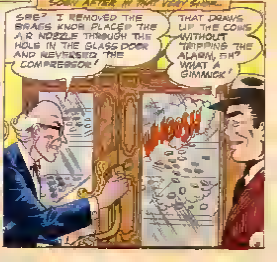

YET, A MOMENT LATER...
YOU DID IT, YOU FOUND THE ONLY OPENING IN THIS WOODEN WALL!
THE CREDIT SHOULD GO TO THOSE TWO ELECTRONIC "HELPERS" WE BUILT!
REACHING UNDER HIS CAPE, BATMAN WITHDRAWS TWO TINY DEVICES...
ONE OF THESE RADAR EAR PLUGS "TOLD" ME WHERE THE OBSTACLES WERE...THE OTHER INCREASED MY SENSE OF HEARING SO THAT I COULD FOLLOW YOUR EVERY MOVEMENT.
GREAT! NO ONE WILL EVER GUESS THE TRUTH
BUT EVEN AS BATMAN DISPLAYS HIS ACTION, DR. PNEUMO MAKES HIS OWN PLANS...
COMPARED WITH THE BANK VAULT, THIS FACTORY SAFE WILL BE SIMPLE TO OPEN! ALL I DO IS
NOT SO FAST, DR. PNEUMO
SENSING DEFEAT, DR. PNEUMO MAKES A DESPERATE BY-PRODUCT ESCAPE...
THIS BOX SHOULD SLOW BATMAN DOWN!
SMOKE PARTS
"IT'S BATMAN!" HE MUST'VE SPOTTED OUR CAR IN THE ALLEY! I'LL TAKE CARE OF "EM!"
BATMAN'S DEVICES LED HIM STRAIGHT TO HIS TARGET
6

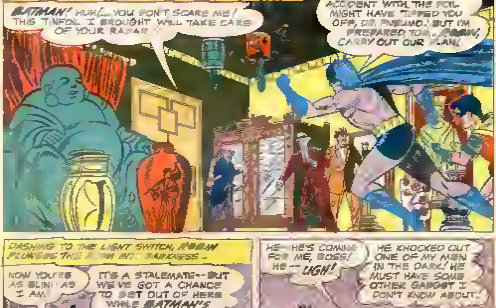

THE CAPTAIN MISSES ITS MARK AND TARGET-BUT, AS A CLOUD OF TINFOIL FLOATS THROUGH THE AIR...
WHAT'S GOING ON? BATMAN IS STUMBLING AROUND LIKE A LOST MAN! NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO GET OUT OF HERE!
TO BE CONTINUED

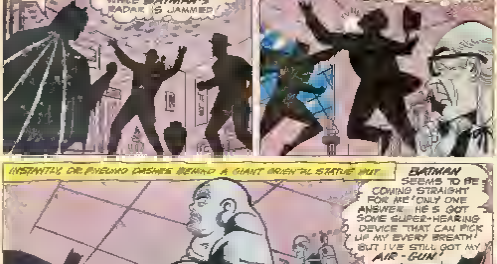

BUT THAT NIGHT, WHEN THE ARMORED CARAVAN WAS NEAR TIME TO THINK OVER THE STRANGE HAPPENINGS...
I MUST BE RIGHT! THE AIR FORCE USES CLOUDS OF TINFOIL TO CONFUSE ENEMY RADAR, AND...
"RADAR"? WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH BATMAN STUMBLING AROUND?


DON'T YOU SEE! THAT BLOW BATMAN RECEIVED WHEN HE FELL AGAINST THE CAR MUST HAVE BLINDED HIM AND LEFT SOME RADAR DEVICE TO COVER UP THE CONFUSION!
BATMAN BLIND?... AND A HANDFUL OF SAND IS ALL YOU NEED TO STOP HIM!
WOW! WE AIN'T GOT A WORRY IN THE WORLD!


MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE BAT-CAVE
THIS CALLING CARD I PICKED UP MUST HAVE FALLEN FROM THE POCKET OF ONE OF HIS HENCHMEN! IT'S FROM THE WANG SUNG CURIO SHOP!
HMM... WANG SUNG HAS A PRICELESS JADE AND GOLD COIN COLLECTION... THEY MAY HAVE BEEN CASING THE SHOP FOR A JOB!


SOON AFTER IN THAT VERY SHOP...
SEE? I REMOVED THE BRACE AND PLACED THE AIR NOZZLE THROUGH THE HOLE IN THE GLASS DOOR AND NEVERED THE COMPRESSOR!
THAT DRAWS UP THE COINS WITHOUT TRIPPING THE ALARM, FM! WHAT A GIMMICK!
WHOOSH!


JUST THEN, AS THE MAN HIGHER THAN EVEREST IS...
BATMAN! HUH!... YOU WON'T SCARE ME! THIS TINFOIL I BROUGHT WILL TAKE CARE OF YOUR RADAR!
I WAS AFRAID THAT ACCIDENT WITH THE FOIL MIGHT HAVE TIPPED YOU OFF, DR. PHIBMO! BUT I'M PREPARED TO...AHEM! CARRY OUT OUR PLAN!


DASHING TO THE LIGHT SWITCH, ROBIN PLUNGES THE ROOM INTO DARKNESS...
NOW YOU'RE AS BLIND AS I AM!
IT'S A STALEMATE--BUT WE'VE GOT A CHANCE TO GET OUT OF HERE WHILE BATMAN'S RADAR IS JAMMED!
ME--HE'S COMING FOR ME, BOSS! HE--UGH!
HE KNOCKED OUT ONE OF MY MEN IN THE DARK! HE MUST HAVE SOME OTHER GADGET I DON'T KNOW ABOUT!

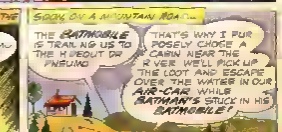

INSTANTLY, DR. PHIBMO CRASHES BEHIND A GIANT ORIENTAL STATUE BUT...
BATMAN SEEMS TO BE COMING STRAIGHT FOR ME! ONLY ONE ANSWER...HE'S GOT SOME SUPER-HEARING DEVICE THAT CAN PICK UP MY EVERY BREATH! BUT I'VE STILL GOT MY AIR-GUN!

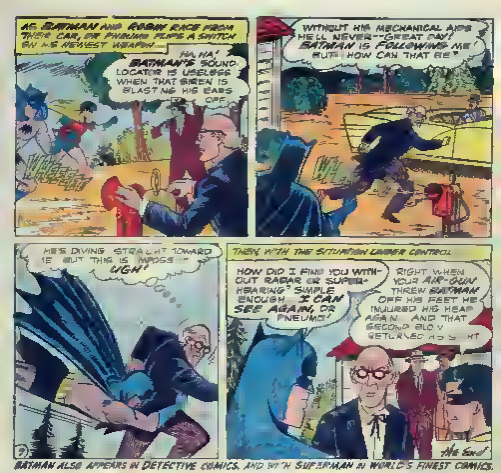

QUICKLY, THE CRAFTY CRIMINAL AVOIDS THE SUCTION DEVICE AT BATMAN'S FEET AND...
"WHAT WAS THAT? ARE YOU OKAY, BATMAN? I CAN'T SEE A THING!"
WHOOSH
WHAM


AND IN THE TRUE ROBIN SWITCHES THE REMOTE BACK ON...
"ALL RIGHT, ROBIN! BUT DO ONE MORE AND HIS MEN - THEY'RE ESCAPING! WE'VE GOT TO HURRY!"


SOON, ON A MOUNTAIN ROAD...
THE BATMOBILE IS TRAILING US TO THE HIDEOUT OF PENGUIN
"THAT'S WHY I PURPOSELY CHOSE A CABIN NEAR THE RIVER! WE'LL PICK UP THE LOOT AND ESCAPE OVER THE WATER IN OUR AIR-CAR WHILE BATMAN'S STUCK IN HIS BATMOBILE!"


MINUTES LATER IN THE HIDEOUT
"THAT'S IT, YOU BOYS! LOAD THE CAR WHILE I FINISH ATTACHING THIS DEVICE - WE'LL OUTRUN BATMAN'S SLUGGER HEARING!"


THEN, WITH THE CAR LOADED...
"THEY'RE HERE! WE GOTTA SCRAM, BOSS!"
"NO! WE'LL HANDLE THEM & SPIT 'EM! THIS DEVICE WILL STOP BATMAN!"



BATMAN ALSO APPEARS IN DETECTIVE COMICS, AND WITH SUPERMAN IN WORLD'S FINEST COMICS.

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Dear Editor I once read about an instrument called the *spectrograph*—an invaluable aid in fighting crime. Do BATMAN and ROBIN have a *spectrograph*? If so, what is its function?

Mort Chester, Fort Worth Tex.

(The *spectrograph* is one of the regular pieces of equipment in the BAT CAVE. Any element—such as paint scraped from an automobile, or filings from a metal object—has its own unique combination of lines and waves, called its "spectrum" Invisible to the naked eye, the spectrum can only be detected by the high-powered lens of the *spectrograph*, which then photographs these lines and waves. From an enlargement of the photo, BATMAN and ROBIN can match up paint scrapings left at the scene of a crime to samples taken from a suspected getaway car —Ed.)

Dear Editor Is it true that BATMAN and ROBIN have costumes which enable them to withstand severe bolts of electricity?

Herman Feinberg, Queens, N Y

(Yes—among their special costumes are a pair that are heavily insulated with rubber BATMAN and ROBIN wear them when they expect to be operating in places where they're exposed to electricity—as in generator plants or among high tension wires By the way, for the story of BATMAN and ROBIN'S wardrobe of unique costumes, be sure to get your copy of the BATMAN ANNUAL, now on sale.—Ed.)

Dear Editor I particularly enjoyed the story, "THE VILLAIN OF 100 ELEMENTS," which appeared in a recent issue Do you have any more bizarre opponents coming up against BATMAN and ROBIN?

Arnold Lake. Wichita, Kans

(You'll be meeting another fantastic villain in the OCTOBER issue of DETECTIVE COMICS No 296, where the caped crime fighters combat "THE MENACE OF THE PLANET MASTER!"—Ed.)

Dear Editor To achieve its enormous speed does the BATMOBILE require a special fuel? If so, where does BATMAN get that fuel?

Jean Reeves Los Angeles Calif

(The BATMOBILE runs on a secret combination of jet fuels, which BATMAN mixes in the BAT-CAVE LAB —Ed.)

Dear Editor How about doing a story where ROBIN vanishes into another dimension, and SUPERMAN and BATMAN have to rescue him?

Murray Holt, Biloxi, Miss.

(We do have such a story coming up—only it's BATMAN, not ROBIN who disappears into a strange new world. And ROBIN and SUPERMAN really have their hands full, when the caped crime-fighter returns in an eerie, distorted form You'll be reading all about it in the NOVEMBER issue of WORLD'S FINEST COMICS No 121, in the adventure of "THE MIRROR BATMAN!"—Ed.)

Dear Editor How can a half-eaten apple serve to track a criminal? I once read that the police caught a man that way

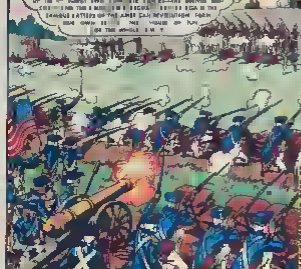
Sal Turio, Duxbury, Conn.

(They probably did it the same way that BATMAN and ROBIN solved a robbery case, some years ago. While planning his move—a restaurant hold up—a crook sat nibbling on a sandwich, to avert suspicion From eye-witnesses' descriptions afterward, BATMAN and ROBIN had a pretty good idea of the robber's identity. but they needed conclusive proof Spotting his half eaten sandwich, they took it to the BAT CAVE CRIME LAB, where they reconstructed plaster casts of his teeth from the bite impressions. They matched perfectly with a cast taken of the suspect's own teeth.—Ed.)

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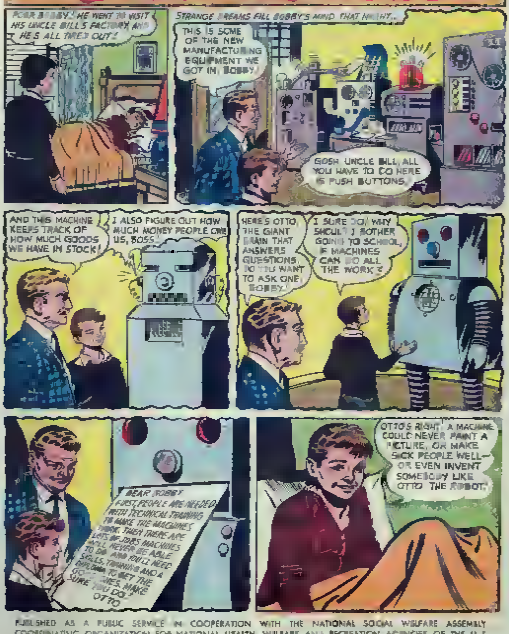
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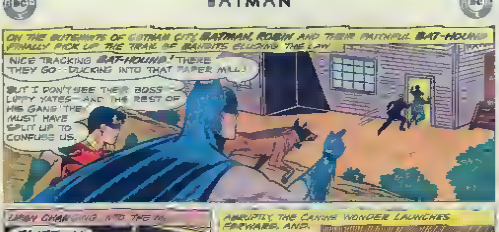
In an envelope or pasted on a postcard

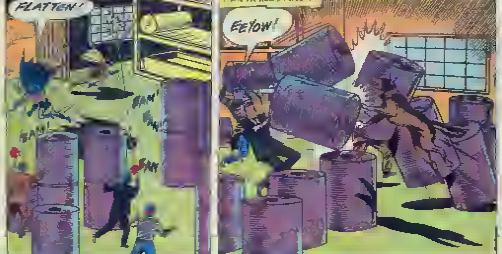
A Message from OTTO The ROBOT!

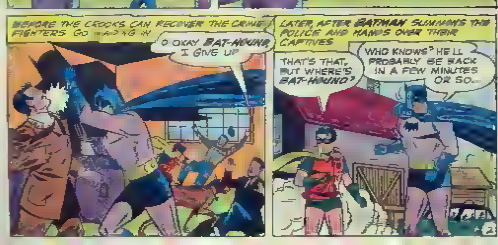


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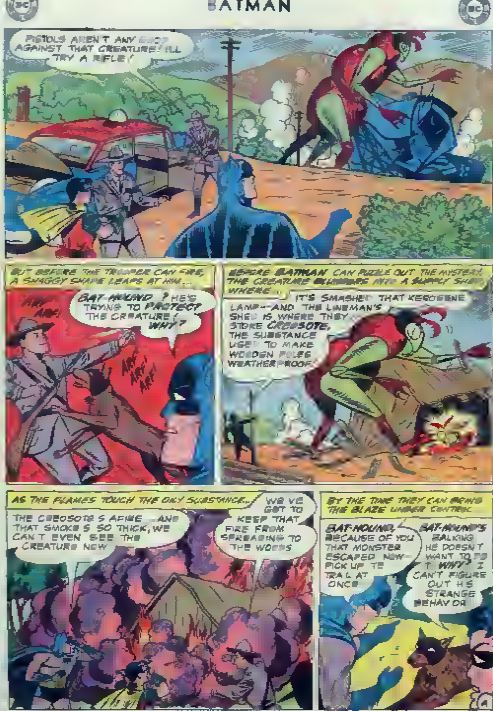

BAT MAN
WITH ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
TELL MEN, BATMAN'S FAMED CANINE PET BAT-HOUND, HAS ALWAYS FOUGHT AGAINST ANY MAN OR BEAST WHO THREATENS INNOCENT PEOPLE... BUT SURPRISE! THIS SAME BAT HOUND TURNS TO PROTECTING A GIGANTIC CREATURE THAT SEEMS TO MENACE A CITY! NOT EVEN BATMAN AND ROBIN CAN FATHOM HIS MYSTERIOUS BEHAVIOR UNTIL THEY FIND THE FANTASTIC ANSWER TO THE STRANGE BOND BETWEEN
BAT-HOUND and the CREATURE
GREAT SCOTT! BAT HOUND'S BARKING HAS ATTRACTED THE CREATURE HERE!
YOW! LET'S GET OUTA HERE BEFORE IT KILLS ALL OF US!
ARF ARF ARF
BOB KANE


ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY, BATMAN, ROBIN AND THEIR FAITHFUL BAT-HOUND FINALLY PICK UP THE TRAIL OF BRAWLERS ELUDING THE LAW
NICE TRACKING BAT-HOUND! THERE THEY GO - DUCKING INTO THAT PAPER MILL!
BUT I DON'T SEE THEIR BOSS LEFTY YATES—AND THE REST OF HIS GANG! THEY MUST HAVE SPLIT UP TO CONFUSE US.


UPON CHARGING INTO THE PA-
FLATTEN!
ABRUPTLY, THE CANNON WONDER LAUNCHES FORWARD, AND...
EE'OW!


BEFORE THE CROOKS CAN RECOVER, THE CRIME FIGHTERS GO WADING IN
O OKAY BAT-HOUND I GIVE UP
LATER, AFTER BATMAN SUMMONS THE POLICE AND HANDS OVER THEIR CAPTIVES
THAT'S THAT, BUT WHERE'S BAT-HOUND?
WHO KNOWS? HE'LL PROBABLY BE BACK IN A FEW MINUTES — OR SO...


JUST THEN...
THERE HE IS! NOTICE HE'S BARKING AND LOOKING BACK IN THE DIRECTION OF THE WOODS!
HE'S TELLING US TO FOLLOW HIM! MAYBE HE SCENTED THE TRAIL OF THE BRAT OF THE YATES GANG!
WOW WOW ARF!
SWIFTLY THEY FOLLOW THEIR FAITHFUL DOG, UNTIL...
GUNSHOTS! FROM THAT DIRECTION! COME ON!
BANG!
BANG!
MINUTES LATER, BURSTING THROUGH THE EDGE OF THE WOODS THEY COME UPON A HIDEOUS SIGHT!
GREAT SCOTT! A GIGANTIC CREATURE - AND THE 5TH TROOPERS HAVE COME UPON IT! THAT'S WHY BRAT HOLMAN HAD US TO LOW HIM!
AS THE COVERED CREATURE FLAILS ABOUT
UH-OH... THAT TELEPHONE POLE JUST KEPT UP IN BREAKING IT'LL FALL RIGHT ON THE TROOPERS
LEAPING INTO A BULLDOZER BATMAN GUNS THE STURDY VEHICLE FORWARD SO THAT...
WHEW! THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL! THANKS, BATMAN!
CRASH!
5


PISTOLS AREN'T ANY GOOD AGAINST THAT CREATURE! I'LL TRY A RIFLE!
BUT BEFORE THE TRAPPER CAN FIRE, A SAVAGE SHAPE LEAPS AT HIM...
BAT-HOUND? HE'S TRYING TO PROTECT THE CREATURE! WHY?
ARF! ARF!
ARF! ARF! ARF!
BEFORE BATMAN CAN PUZZLE OUT THE MYSTERY, THE CREATURE BLUNDERS INTO A BLAZING SHACK NEARBY...
IT'S SMASHED! THAT KEROSENE LAMP--AND THE LINEMAN'S SHED IS WHERE THEY STORE CREOSOTE, THE SUBSTANCE USED TO MAKE WOODEN POLES WEATHER-PROOF.
AS THE FLAMES TOUCH THE OILY SUBSTANCE...
THE CREOSOTE'S AFIRE...AND THAT SMOKE'S SO THICK, WE CAN'T EVEN SEE THE CREATURE NOW!
WE'VE GOT TO KEEP THAT FIRE FROM SPREADING TO THE WOODS!
BY THE TIME THEY CAN BEAT THE BLAZE UNDER CONTROL...
BAT-HOUND, BECAUSE OF YOU THAT MONSTER ESCAPED! NOW PICK UP ITS TRAIL AT ONCE!
BAT-HOUND'S BALKING! HE DOESN'T WANT TO! I WONDER WHY? CAN'T FIGURE OUT HIS STRANGE BEHAVIOR!

BATMAN, A FARMER JUST CALLED IN. HE SAYS THERE'S SOME KIND OF SHINY THING LYING ON HIS FIELD. CAN YOU TAKE A LOOK AT IT WHILE WE GET MORE TROOPERS HERE TO TRACK DOWN AND KILL THAT MONSTER!

GIVING TO THE FARM SIGHTINGS THEY COME UPON ...

AN ALIEN SPACE CAPSULE!

A LITTLE ANIMAL MUST HAVE COME OUT OF IT. YOU CAN SEE ITS SMALL PAW PRINTS — AND THEY LEAD TO THE WOODS! LET'S FOLLOW THEM!

TRAILING THE PRINTS, THEY SOON COME UPON A TRAPPER'S SNARE ...

IT MUST'VE BEEN CAUGHT IN THIS SNARE! THERE ARE THE ANIMAL'S PRINTS!

YES! AND BATWOMAN, TOO, THIS IS WHY BAT-HOUND RAN BEFORE ... IT HEARD THE ANIMAL CHEWED THE TRAP'S REST FREE IT THEN CAME BACK TO TELL US!

ACK! PAK!

BUT LOOK! THE ANIMAL'S PRINTS GOING AWAY FROM THE TRAP ... THEY GET LARGER AND LARGER — UNTIL THEY'RE GIGANTIC!

NOW I UNDERSTAND! ORIGINALLY THE ANIMAL WAS SMALL — BUT SOMEHOW, OUR ATMOSPHERE CAUSED IT TO GROW INTO THIS GIANT CREATURE WE JUST FOUGHT!

PEOPLE ON ANOTHER PLANET MUST'VE LAUNCHED THE SMALL ANIMAL ON A SPACE EXPERIMENT, JUST AS WE DO. AND THE CAPSULE DRIFTED THROUGH SPACE UNTIL IT LANDED HERE

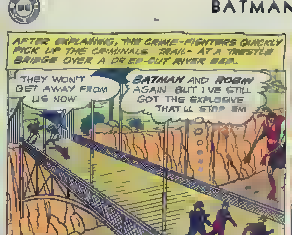
THAT POOR CREATURE CAN YOU IMAGINE HOW BEWILDERED IT MUST BE BY ITS GIANT SIZE AND OUR STRANGE WORLD? IT NEVER MEANT ANY HARM IT WAS ONLY TRYING TO DEFEND ITSELF!

BAT-HOUND SENSED THIS AND TRIED TO PROTECT IT

NICE WORK, FELLA. NOW IT'S UP TO YOU! WE'VE GOT TO PICK UP YOUR FRIENDS TRAIL SO WE CAN GET TO HIM FIRST BEFORE THE TROOPERS FIND AND KILL HIM!

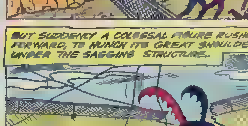
BAT-HOUND UNDERSTANDS


BUT AWHILE LATER AS THE THREE MAN-HUNTERS CONCENTRATE IN THEIR ASSIGNED BLOCK AREA!
HAW! THE NIT GOT 'EM! THEY WERE SO BUSY THEY DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE USING THIS DESERTED OLD PLACE AS A HIDEOUT!
LIPPY YATES!
MEANWHILE BACK THE CRIME-FIGHTERS ARE TAKING THE ABANDONED FACTORY
THIS EXPLOSIVE WILL TAKE CARE OF BATMAN AND ROBIN FOR GOOD! HA, HA, YAP ALL YOU WANT TO, DOGGY. NOTHING'S GONNA SAVE YOU NOW!
BUT SUDDENLY
LOOK! THAT'S WHY BAT-HOUND WAS BARKING—HE SCENTED THE CREATURE NEARBY, AND CALLED IT, KNOWING IT WAS A FRIEND!
YOW! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
WHSH
ARK!
THE CREATURE'S SNAPPED THE HANDCUFF THREE'S SHOVED BACK IN OUR BONDS. NOW, SO THAT WE CAN SLIDE THEM LOOSE. GOOD WORK, BAT-HOUND!
ARK!
ARK!
EMERGING, HOWEVER, THE THIRD RUNS SMACK INTO A NEW PROBLEM...
WAIT! DON'T SHOOT! THE CREATURE'S OUR FRIEND! IT JUST SAVED OUR LIVES!
THAT MONSTER!... A FRIEND?
ARK!
ARK!
GAK!

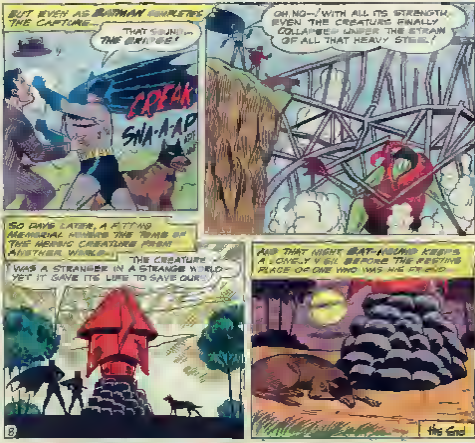

AFTER EXPLAINING, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS QUICKLY PICK UP THE CRIMINALS' TRAIL- AT A TRESTLE BRIDGE OVER A DEEP-CUT RIVER BED...
THEY WON'T GET AWAY FROM US NOW
BATMAN AND ROBIN! AGAIN, BUT I'VE STILL GOT THE EXPLOSIVE THAT'LL STOP 'EM
DOOM


NEXT MOMENT...
GREAT SCOTT! THE BRIDGE IT'S COLLAPSING!
BOOOM

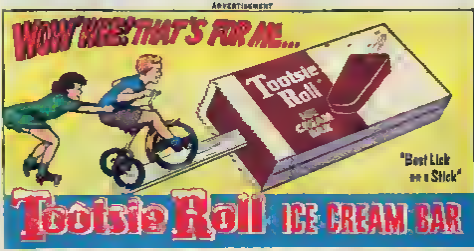
BUT SUDDENLY A COLOSSAL FIGURE RUSHES FORWARD, TO HUNCH ITS GREAT SHOULDERS UNDER THE SAGGING STRUCTURE...
THE CREATURE IT'S SAVED US! AND WE CAN GO OVER ITS SHOULDERS TO GET AT LIPPY!


RACING ONWARD, THE CAPED CRIME FIGHTERS CLOSE IN ON THE AMAZED HOODLUMS...
YOU AIN'T GONNA LIVE TO GET ME, BATMAN!


ABRUPTLY, AS IF SHOT FROM A BOW, ANOTHER FIGURE HURTLES FORWARD...
HUH—?
I CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON BAT-HOUND TO COME THROUGH!



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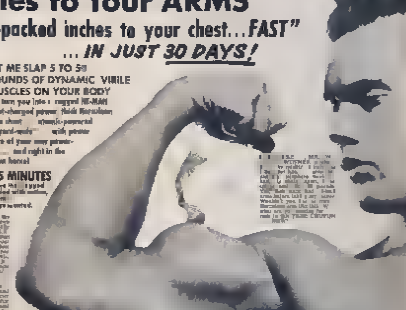


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